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Aug 28th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

Some years ago I switched DSL providers to Sonic. I had tried a few different providers, some went out of business, some were not reliable.

I could do this because the various ISPs could run DSL from my local telephone switch downtown (it has also changed ownership multiple times over the years) over the same pair of copper wires running from the big AT&T switch downtown to my 90 year old home a few blocks away.

Earlier this summer, the AT&T crews were out stringing optical fiber to the telephone pole in my back yard. They said they would be provisioning it later this year.

Now I hear that AT&T may not provide the same level of access to this fiber AT&T is stringing up in my neighborhood that my telephone and internet provider has with the existing copper infrastructure.

I want the fiber. I'm an engineer here in Silicon Valley who works from home two days a week to avoid traffic and maintain a smaller carbon footprint. My livelihood and contribution to the Silicon Valley economy is dependent upon fast and reliable internet access.

My global colleges tend to have faster, more reliable connections that I because their countries have made fiber to the home a priority. I want to switch to fiber as it rolls out in my neighborhood, but not if I can't choose my ISP and telephone provider.

I looked into AT&T as my ISP the last time I switched. They were expensive and unfriendly. I get much better service at a lower price with my current ISP and want to stay with them as high speed fiber--finally--rolls out into my neighborhood.

Hal Mounce